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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

2 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to the President for
National Security Affairs

SUBJECT : Information Relevant to the Bombing
Halt Understanding

1. In response to your request of 30 November, we have prepared a four part package, all of whose components are being transmitted as attachments to this memorandum.

2. Attachment I is a paper entitled, "The Understandings on the Bombing Halt" which summarizes the substantive information known to us on matters relevant to your 30 November request.

3. Attachment II is an internal working paper entitled, "Summary Highlights of the Paris Talks Up to the Bombing Halt." It was originally drafted, and is used, as a reference aid for our analysts charged with following the progress of the talks, who need to be able to check quickly when some particular event occurred. We are forwarding a copy of this chronological resume through December 1968 in the hope that you or your associates may find it useful.

4. We do not have files on Paris negotiations in the normal sense of the word since the vast majority of the traffic thereon has been confined to sensitive State Department cables (most of them NODIS) or White House cables sent through State channels. As a service to the White House and other senior elements of the Executive Branch, however, soon after the talks began we initiated a program of putting on computer tapes pertinent extracts or resumes of all material on the negotiations that was shown to us. (Access to these tapes or print-outs from them is, of course, very tightly controlled out of my office.) We cannot

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vouch for the completeness of this computerized record since we obviously could not include therein documents that were never shown to us. Furthermore, our computer record has certain problems -- involving overlaps or duplications in some instances and lacunae in others -- deriving from the fact that President Johnson put an ironbound clamp on all negotiations traffic after 11 October 1968 and normal distribution procedures were not resumed until December. We did not see any of the late October or November 1968 traffic until the spring of 1969 and when we did see it, it came to us piecemeal and often out of sequence.

5. Attachment III is a print-out of material concerning the Paris negotiations from June 1968 through December 1968. (These print-outs are in four books labelled III/A, III/B, III/C and III/D.) This material includes all the relevant information known to this Agency. Our basic filing procedure had to be one of chronology since our analyst/programmers were not always able to anticipate what subjects were going to assume separate importance or what key words (e.g., "understandings") were going to become labels for such separate subjects. Unfortunately these print-outs have a few of the typographical errors, garbles or inexplicable (by human readers) duplications inevitably associated with the product of computers. Nonetheless, by looking at the desired source date (SRCDATE in computer jargon), one can find the material pertinent to the talks at any particular time.

6. Attachment IV is a separate print-out on "Reconnaissance," which was picked up (and programmed) early on as a discreet topic likely to be of future interest. There is nothing in Attachment IV that is not also contained in Attachment III, but we thought you might find it useful to have all the reconnaissance material in a separate, more manageable package.

Richard Helms
Director

Attachments
I, II, III and IV a/s

O/DCI/SAVA:GACarver, Jr. /mee 2Dec70

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